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BULLS FIGHTING. A BRONZE GROUP BY SOLON BORGLUM

PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS



PRIMITIVE MAN. A BRONZE GROUP
BY EDGAR WALTER

AMERICAN SCULPTURE.—The latest additions to the collection of bronzes which the Museum has recently acquired are two gifts: one, a group called "Primitive Man," by

Edgar Walter, the Californian sculptor, received from Mr. Isaac N. Seligman; the other, a bust of Ralph Waldo Emerson, by Daniel Chester French, a gift from the sculptor.

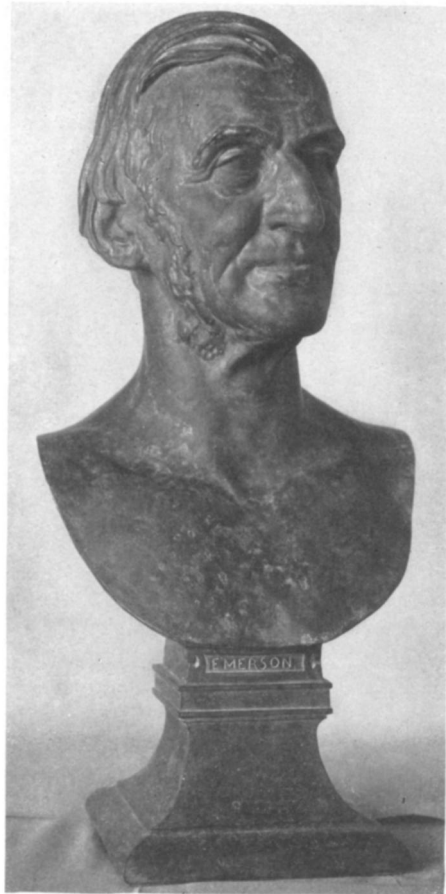
The figure of a man lightly holding by the scruff of its neck the limp form of a bear cub, well expresses the idea of great strength usually ascribed to the man of primitive times. The poise of the figure is masterly, and the modeling crisp and firm—in a word, the work is a worthy example of what is being done by the school of young sculptors of the western coast.

Mr. French's fine bust of Emerson, modeled from life in 1879, is well-known to all lovers of the Concord philosopher. We quote the artist's own description of the face which he has reproduced, extracted from Lorado Taft's *History of American Sculpture*.

"I think it is very seldom that a face combines such vigor and strength in the general form with such exceeding delicacy and sensitiveness in the details. James speaks somewhere of 'the over-modeled American face.' No face was ever more modeled than Mr. Emerson's; there was nothing slurred, nothing accidental, but it was like the perfection of detail in great sculpture—it did not interfere with the grand scheme. Neither did it interfere with an almost child-like mobility that admitted of an infinite variety of expression and made possible that wonderful lighting up of the face so often spoken of by those who knew him. It was the at-

tempt to catch that glorifying expression that made me despair of my bust. When the work was approaching completion, Mr. Emerson looked at it after one of the sittings and said, 'The trouble is, the more it resembles me, the worse it looks.' It will be remembered, however, that the sage finally gave the bust his unqualified approval in the oft-quoted remark, 'That is the face that I shave.'"

HIGH BRIDGE, BY RANGER.—Mr. William T. Evans has presented to the Museum a painting by Henry Ward Ranger, which, besides its artistic merits, has a special interest in the public museum of New York. It belongs to a series of views of New York City, the subject being "High Bridge," the well-known aqueduct which carries the Croton water main over the Harlem River.



RALPH WALDO EMERSON
BRONZE BUST, BY DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH